October 19, 1986

Dear Mom,

It has been a wonderful day, and I just wanted to share some of it with you. Today was the "San Diego Walks for Life" walkathon to raise money for local AIDS organizations. As you may know, I was walking and got people to sponsor me so much per kilometer (it was a ten-kilometer walk). I was very pleased to raise $500 in pledges prior to the walk. The event had the following persons as honorary chairpersons: Senator Pete Wilson (former Mayor of San Diego), Maureen O'Connor (current mayor of San Diego), Joan Kroc (owner of the MacDonald's restaurant chain and the San Diego Padres), one of our county supervisors, and a popular local TV news personality.

Attending celebrities were Zelda Rubenstein, best known nationally for her role in the hit film "Poltergeist" but better known to Californians for her appearances on a series of "Safe Sex" posters. In those posters she is always dressed in a pinafore apron and holding a big wooden spoon and admonishing men to "Keep it clean", "Play safe", or "Wear your rubbers". Because of this series of ad campaigns and her tours of west coast cities promoting AIDS prevention, she has become known as "Mother". The poor thing was in an automobile accident a couple days ago and broke her knee cap. But she still came all the way down from Los Angeles in a knee brace and on crutches for our event. As she emerged from the limousine the crowd began chanting "Moth-er! Moth-er!" She was just wonderful.

Also attending were Gordon Thompson (Dynasty's Adam) who walked the whole 10 K. with us, Beth Howland (everybody's favorite dingbat waitress from TV's "Alice"), and Eileen Brennan (TV's "Private Benjamin"). They were all just wonderful and definitely got our walk started off on a very up-beat mood. The weather couldn't have been better--cloudless skies of glorious blue, the harbor full of colorful sailboats, flowers in bloom all along the embarkadero. Motorists all along the way waving and tooting their horns in support added to the bouyancy of the mood.

About the enclosures: Mostly they are about places you've been. Since you've walked over the Golden Gate Bridge and sailed under it, I thought you might get a kick out of this page from the Travel section of the "San Diego Union". Also, there's a small clip about the reopening of the Spreckels Organ in Balboa Park which I attended and enjoyed immensely. Of course, you were not only a visitor to the McCadden Place house and gallery in Hollywood, but you got a personal tour from Morris Kight. Therefore, I thought you might have some interest in the enclosed Los Angeles Times article.

As an Episcopalian, I thought you might also be interested in the letter from The Very Reverend James Carroll of Saint Paul's in San Diego, where you and I (and the Queen, I might add) attended services. Maybe you could show it to your minister and see if he might be interested in doing something similar in Baltimore sometime. In any event, I hope you will join us in prayer, especially on November 8th.

I had dinner with Pat & Matt last night. Their household has been in an uproar during the past 10 days over the death of the "Bean" and the acquisition of a new puppy. They always ask about you and send their love. They were also among my many sponsors in the walkathon as was Gail.

Daisy says hello and sends her best wishes. It's getting late, so I'll say bye for now.

Much love to you,

Bob